



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

EX-POLICEMAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Sentence is latest under ICE's Operation Predator

BUFFALO, N.Y.—A former Hamburg, N.Y., police officer has been sentenced to 12 months in federal prison for possession of child pornography following an extensive investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE special agents arrested George Adymy in March 2004 for receiving child pornography as part of an ongoing Internet child pornography investigation.

The sentence was announced today by ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Peter J. Smith. The U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York prosecuted the case. Adymy was sentenced for receiving child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252.

Peter Smith said the sentence is an example of what happens when a police officer violates his oath by taking part in a crime that victimizes children. "Those individuals who wear a badge take an oath to protect and serve the public, especially children, who are our most vulnerable citizens," Smith said. "Operation Predator targets individuals who are in a position to violate the public trust and exploit children."

Adymy pleaded guilty to the charge in June 2004. In his plea he admitted to downloading images of child pornography from the Internet and possessing other images of child pornography. The investigation revealed Adymy purchased access to a child pornography Web site and viewed the images with his computer at his residence in Hamburg.

Smith pointed out that anyone who receives or possesses child pornography is subject to investigation, arrest and prosecution. "We place our priorities on investigating individuals who can gain easy access to children through their professions," Smith said. "A police officer is in a unique position to be trusted by kids and to violate that trust is shameful."

The case against Adymy is part of ICE's Operation Predator, a nationwide initiative to protect children from criminal alien sex offenders, child sex tourists, Internet child pornographers and human traffickers. Since Operation Predator began in July 2003, more than 5,500 individuals have been arrested. The investigation of Adymy grew out of a earlier investigation into a Belarus-based company that provided billing services for child pornography websites and operated child pornography sites of its own. That investigation resulted in more than 190 of the Operation Predator arrests and an additional 1,000 arrests by foreign law enforcement acting on information provided by ICE.

In a separate case, Smith also announced that a Rochester man has pleaded guilty to possession of child pornography. The case is also part of Operation Predator and was investigated out of the Buffalo ICE office. The individual, Michael Teeboon possessed 120 images of child pornography on his computer. Teeboon will be sentenced on July 25, 2005.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.